

Hurricane Katrina Fact Sheet

Comic Relief 2006

Response

Number of people sheltered in the Superdome before evacuation: **approximately 23,000**

Number of people the building's personnel and supplies could adequately care for:
approximately 1,000 people

Number of people who took shelter in the New Orleans Convention Center: **approximately 3000**

Number of days before FEMA head Michael Brown was aware that people had been evacuated to the Convention Center: **3**

Number of days before U.S. federal government response: **4**

Number of people rescued by the Coast Guard from flooded areas and rooftops: **4,000**

Number of those rescued who later died at New Orleans Louis Armstrong International Airport:
approximately 100

Number of people transported out of New Orleans on buses the Friday after the storm: **1,000 per hour**

Number of airlines who evacuated residents out of New Orleans: **12 (biggest U.S. airlift-rescue ever)**

Number of foreign nations offering to help U.S.: **approximately 60**

Amount committed to Katrina relief by the federal government: **\$85 billion**

Amount spent by FEMA to date specifically on housing assistance for hurricane victims: **\$3.31 billion**

Amount spent by FEMA to date on operating expenses, including salaries and expense accounts: **\$6 billion**

Infrastructure

Number of housing units damaged, destroyed, or inaccessible because of Katrina: **850,791**

Number of churches, synagogues, and mosques damaged or destroyed: **approximately 900**

Percentage of homes in New Orleans still lacking electricity: **approximately 50**

Percentage of New Orleans schools damaged by Katrina: **83**

Amount of debris yet to be picked up: **1/3**

Percentage of bus routes now operational: **49**

Percentage of buses back in service: **17**

Amount given to Louisiana by U.S. Dept. of Education for charter schools since Katrina: **\$44.8 million**

Amount given for traditional public schools damaged by the storm: **\$0**

Percentage of child-care facilities yet to reopen: **79**

Percentage of 8-mi Twin Span bridge connecting New Orleans with Slidell, LA that collapsed into Lake Pontchartrain: **40**

Number of destroyed miles on U.S. Highway 90 running along Gulf Coast between New Orleans and Pascagoula, MS: **100**

Amount of federal funding requested by the Army Corps of Engineers for Louisiana hurricane/flood protection programs in 2004: **\$105 million**

Amount of money they actually received: **\$40 million**

Amount of federal funding recently sent to Alaska that was requested to build a bridge to an uninhabited island: **\$231 million**

Amount of money sent by Homeland Security to states to combat natural disasters: **\$180 million**

Amount of money sent by Homeland Security to states to combat terrorism annually: **\$1.1 billion**

Percentage of this terrorism grant money that may be spent on national disasters: **0**

Number of major disasters declared by the federal government since 1995: **562**

Number of terrorist attacks out of the above: **2 (Oklahoma City bombings and World Trade Center attacks)**

People/Human Rights

Number of deaths resulting from Katrina: **1836**

Percentage of Katrina-related deaths of people aged 60 or older: **70**

Percentage of New Orleans' pre-Katrina residents who have returned to the city: **approximately 45**

Area covered by federal disaster declarations (in square miles): **approximately 90,000**

Size of the United Kingdom (in square miles): **approximately 93,000**

Percentage of city that was underwater: **80**

Number of days parts of city remained flooded: **43**

Depth of water covering parts of New Orleans: **20 feet**

Number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) worldwide: **25 million**

Number of IDPs in Afghanistan since war began in 2001: **153,000**

Number of IDPs in Bosnia-Herzegovina: **182,000**

Number of people displaced or left homeless by the May 2006 Indonesian earthquake: **600,000**

Number of IDPs due to December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami: **about 1 million**

Number of persons displaced by Katrina from Louisiana: **645,000 to 1.1 million**

Estimated number of displaced residents aged 65 or older: **88,000**

Number of United Nations Guiding Principles on the human rights of internally displaced persons: **30**

Minimum number of these principles could apply to human rights violations from Hurricane Katrina, according to one international law scholar: **16**

Number of the four International Conventions on Human Rights, on which the Guiding Principles are based, that the United States has ratified: **1**

Number of New Orleans prisoners whose trials have never been set or have been delayed, or who have never seen an attorney: **about 6,000**

Average time people sat in a New Orleans jail before seeing an attorney: **more than 1 year**

Percentage of people in the U.S., according to a Zogby International poll, who would refuse to evacuate ahead of a disaster if they could not bring their pets: **61**

Environment

Louisiana's national rank for annual wetlands loss: **1**

Amount of coastal wetlands Louisiana loses each year: **35 square miles**

Amount of coastal wetlands in Louisiana that disappear every day: **48 football fields**

Distance Louisiana's coastline is expected to move inland in some places by 2040: **33 miles**

Square miles of coastal wetlands that were converted to open water after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita: **118**

Miles of coastal marshes and wetlands between New Orleans and the open ocean needed to reduce storm surges by 1 foot: **2.7**

In terms of energy, number of atomic bombs it would take to equal Hurricane Katrina's power: **100,000**

Amount needed annually for 30 years to restore coastal marshes and wetlands to fully protect New Orleans in the future: **\$500 million**

Amount of federal spending designated to rebuild New Orleans post-Katrina: **\$80 billion**

Amount of these federal dollars designated for Gulf Coast wetlands restoration: **0.125%**

Gallons of oil spilled in Louisiana from damaged tanks and other production facilities during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita: **10.5 million**

Gallons spilled from 1989 Exxon Valdez disaster in Alaska: **11 million**

Gallons of crude oil contaminating 2,500 Louisiana homes: **1,000,000**

Estimated portion of oil spilled by Katrina recovered through cleanup efforts: **50% to 70%**

Portion of flood sediment samples analyzed after Katrina and Rita in Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas that exceeded federal limits for arsenic: **90%**

Estimated cost to clean up lead-contaminated New Orleans properties by bringing in clean dirt and planting grass: **\$290.4 million**

Estimated annual cost of New Orleans' lead poisoning in damage to society as a result of problems related to health, education and crime: **\$76 million**

Portion of hazardous materials that authorities would be "lucky" to remove from the post-Katrina

waste stream, according to an Environmental Protection Agency official: **20% to 30%**

Gallons of water the New Orleans water system loses each day due to breaks caused by Katrina and an under funded repair budget: **85 million**

Daily cost to the city from the leaks: **\$196,350**

Health

Percentage of physicians who have left the city: **50**

Number of nurses gone: **approximately 1,000**

Number of hospitals in Orleans Parish before Hurricanes Katrina and Rita: **22**

Number operating as of August 2006: **11**

Percentage of adults in Louisiana left without health insurance: **44**

Percentage of children in FEMA-subsidized communities with at least one chronic health condition requiring treatment: **34**

Percentage of these children left without a medical provider: **50**

Percentage of children at a Metairie, La. preschool who failed hearing tests due to health problems from Katrina "crud": **75**

Percentage of New Orleans-area doctors no longer submitting claims to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana: **75**

Number of HIV/AIDS patients served by outpatient clinics in the Charity Hospital system before the storms: **3,500**

Number currently receiving care: **1,200**

Out of nine before Katrina, number of rural clinics lost by Coastal Family Health Care, a nonprofit serving the uninsured in Mississippi: **4**

In September 2005, days that federal officials said it would take to help Coastal rebuild three of their clinics: **12-18**

As of August 2006, number that had been rebuilt: **0**

Percentage of mental health professionals who have left the city: **89**

Number of calls involving mentally ill people that the New Orleans Police Department Mobile Crisis Unit receives each week: **180**

Number of psychiatric in-patient beds in the New Orleans area prior to the hurricanes: **450**

Number available as of August 2006: **80**

Estimated number of post-traumatic stress disorder cases in the state of Louisiana this year: **300,000**

Approximate percent increase in New Orleans' suicide rate since Katrina: **300**

Culture

Percentage of New Orleans cultural institutions that remain closed from storm damage: **75**

Estimated number of working musicians in New Orleans pre-Katrina: **2,500**

Estimated number of musicians in New Orleans post-Katrina: **250**

Number of homes currently available at Habitat for Humanity's Musicians' Village: **75**

Of the 61 applications from New Orleans-area musicians for homes in the Musicians' Village, percentage immediately turned down between February and May 2006 due to credit problems: **50**

Number of musicians approved for housing in the Musicians' Village as of July 2006: **6**

Rebuilding Contracts

Minimum value of contracts federal agencies have awarded to private companies for work related to Katrina and Rita: **\$9.7 billion**

Amount given out by FEMA for storm-related contracts: **\$3.4 billion**

Percent of those contracts awarded with little or no competition: **80**

Percentage of FEMA contracts by mid-November 2005 that went to firms in Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi: **12**

Year that Landstar Express America, a Florida trucking company, received the federal contract for providing evacuation buses for national disasters: **2002**

Days after the mayor of New Orleans declared a mandatory evacuation that Landstar ordered buses: **2**

Days after Hurricane Katrina struck that evacuation buses arrived at the New Orleans Convention Center: **4**

Amount of the federal contract, the bulk of which was awarded to the Shaw Group, whose lobbyist is former FEMA director Joe Allbaugh, for tarping roofs—despite charging three times more than Alabama competitor Ystueta: **\$330 million**

Amount awarded by FEMA to West Virginia pastor Gary Heldreth to set up a base camp for first responders in flooded St. Bernard Parish, which he used instead to purchase cars and real estate and to transfer cash to family members: **\$5.2 million**

Value of Corvette Heldreth gave his son to avoid paying a government lien: **\$50,000**

Housing

Number of homes destroyed by breaches in federally designed and funded levees and not covered under the federal housing recovery plan: **200,000**

Number of single-family homes sold in the New Orleans area during the first quarter of 2006: **3,659**

Percentage by which this exceeds the number sold during the first quarter of 2005: **28**

Average percentage by which the price of these homes has increased: **20**

Number of rental units lost: **43,000**

Percentage increase in rental rates after Katrina: **39**

Current occupancy rate of livable apartments in New Orleans: **99**

Number of storm-affected households approved for housing assistance: **946,597**

Months after Katrina that federal money for housing was approved: **10**

Total federal funds dispersed so far to rebuild homes: **\$0**

Number of homeowners in Louisiana on a waiting list for billions in federal rebuilding assistance through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program: **100,000**

Percentage of money that has been distributed: **0**

Percentage of Louisiana mortgages past due as of July 2006: **20**

National average for percentage of past-due mortgages: **4**

Number of insurance companies instructed by FEMA to cease National Flood Insurance payouts due to insolvency of the federally managed National Flood Insurance Program: **96**

Amount allocated from Katrina funding to date to pay National Flood Insurance Program claims: **\$18.5 billion**

Number of insurance companies sued for refusal to pay damages: **50**

Percentage of homeowners still awaiting Small Business Association disaster loan approval: **50**

Percentage of homeowner SBA disaster loans that have been fully paid after approval: **6.9**

Percentage of New Orleans public housing still closed: **80**

Number of FEMA trailers occupied in Mississippi: **94,000**

FEMA trailers still needed in Mississippi: **9,000**

FEMA trailers requested in the New Orleans metro area: **69,706**

FEMA trailers occupied in the New Orleans metro area: **31,517**

Unoccupied modular homes purchased by FEMA and sitting unused in Hope, Arkansas: **10,777**

FEMA trailers held in staging areas and unoccupied: **20,000**

Repair and maintenance requests for FEMA trailers in Mississippi: **34,000**

Average cost of a single FEMA trailer per month: **\$3,200**

Average living space of a FEMA trailer: **240 square feet**

Employment

Number of jobs eliminated in the Gulf Coast by Hurricane Katrina: **230,000**

Permanent employment loss in Louisiana: **100,000**

Fourth quarter 2005 employment loss in New Orleans: **50%**

A year after Katrina, percentage by which New Orleans' workforce has shrunk: **30**

Unemployment rate among Hurricane Katrina evacuees who are now back in their original homes: **4.2%**

Unemployment rate among evacuees who aren't back in their original homes: **23%**

Estimated number of Latino workers that moved to the Gulf Coast after Katrina: **100,000**

Percentage of construction workers in New Orleans estimated to be undocumented Latinos: **25**

Percent of undocumented workers in Gulf that report not being given protective equipment while working with hazardous substances or in dangerous conditions: **19**

Number of U.S. Immigration and Customs Office personnel dispatched to the Gulf in September 2005, including officers for "detention and removal" of undocumented workers: **725**

Economic Impact

Estimated Cost of damages: **\$81.2 billion (costliest hurricane in history)**

Cost of damages resulting from Hurricane Andrew: **\$26 billion in 1992 (\$45 billion in 2005 U.S. dollars)**

Estimated total economic impact: **\$200 billion**

Louisiana revenue loss, representing one-seventh of general funds total: **\$1 billion**

Percentage of businesses damaged or destroyed in Louisiana due to Katrina: **40**

Percentage of New Orleans small businesses destroyed by Katrina: **60**

Out of 28,540 disaster loan applications submitted to Small Business Administration from the Gulf Coast, number processed by December 2005: **10**

By May 2006, number of loans the SBA had approved from Louisiana: **11,400**

Number of businesses that had actually received checks: **4,200**

Amount Entergy's New Orleans subsidiary requested in federal relief after declaring bankruptcy following the storm: **\$718 million**

Rate increase proposed by Entergy New Orleans to fund repairs after its request for federal funding was denied: **25 percent**

Annual profits that Entergy Corp., whose subsidiaries provide electricity to most of the Gulf region, reported earning before Katrina: **\$909 million**

Oil production area in Louisiana affected by Katrina: **82%**

Natural gas production area in Louisiana affected by Katrina: **60%**

Amount of nation's oil produced by U.S. Gulf Coast region: **33%**

Amount of nation's natural gas produced by U.S. Gulf Coast region: **20%**

Percentage of US grain exports handled by U.S. Gulf Coast region: **60**

Number of ports in the Gulf Coast region ranked in the Top 12 of the U.S.: **5**

Ranking of the South Louisiana port by U.S. cargo volume: **#1**

Fraction of Louisiana's oyster harvest lost: **2/3 (valued at \$181 million)**

Percentage of Louisiana's tourism income coming from New Orleans: **50**